

Agriculture of Cape Colony, as a plant worthy of being given unusual attention. According to their statements, this melon, which is of the nature of a watermelon, is quite distinct from the well-known Tsama melon, which grows on the west side of the Kalihari desert. This is found on the east side of the desert and is remarkable for the high yield of melons to the acre. As many as 150 tons have been produced to the acre, 75 tons being not at all unusual.

The interest in new varieties of mangos has become general enough in Florida to warrant our calling particular attention to the "Pahutan" mango (No. 25940), introduced by Mr. William S. Lyon from the Philippines. Although not as large a fruit or as small seeded as some of the East Indian mangos, it fruits early and is enormously prolific (which some of the East Indian varieties are not). According to Mr. Lyon its sweetness and juiciness are unapproached by any other of the many Filipino mangos he has eaten. Its thick skin will probably make it a good shipper.

The oriental *Myrica nagi* has been introduced under No. 25908. This extremely interesting fruit plant, whose dark wine-colored fruits are exceedingly ornamental, has not been given the attention which it deserves. There seem to be a number of varieties of this fruit, and, although it is a slow-growing tree and late coming into bearing, it is deserving of a trial in California and northern Florida.

The great value of a variety of cherry which is hardier in fruit bud than other cherries is conceded by the horticulturists of the North western States. Those who are breeding or experimenting with cherries will therefore be interested in the introduction of *Prunus tomentosa* (No. 25880), which has been especially recommended by Professor Macoun, of the Experimental Farm at Ottawa, Canada. Trees of this species have been placed in the Upper Mississippi Valley Plant Introduction Garden at Ames, Iowa, for further trial and propagation.

Of especial interest and problematic value is a collection of peach, apricot, and cherry seeds from the Himalayas (Nos. 25894 to 25896). The Indian bael fruit (Nos. 25879, 25889, 25890, and 25912) is one which may prove valuable for making sherbets and for the flavoring of soft drinks. A collection of varieties of tropical corn, representing some of the best work done by the Harvard Experiment Station in Cuba; a collection of oats from Algeria, Palestine, Sweden, and Turkey for the oat breeders; and a wild olive, *Olea foveolata* (No. 25846), from the East London district of Cape Colony, are also worthy of special mention.

DAVID FAIRCHILD,
Agricultural Explorer in Charge.

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